

The Monthly A·C·E

*The Official Bulletin of the Association of Clandestine
Radio Enthusiasts*

Since 1982 • May, 2002
Our Twentieth Anniversary

This is your brain on
pirate radio. . . .



Any questions?????

The Managing Editor's Page

By Harry Helms

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2002 marks the twentieth anniversary of our club's founding! Our man at ACE headquarters, John Arthur, shares these thoughts about those early days:

"In March of 1982 Darren Leno, with help from Lani Pettit, sent out a 'complimentary issue' of something called *The ACE* to 21 people. They felt there was a need for something to replace the Free Radio Campaign - USA, which had folded about a year previously. Fifteen of those people (including Gregg Bares, Terry Provance and myself) responded positively and became 'charter members.' The first regular issue was mailed in May of 1982. In twenty years we've had five Headquarters and probably six or seven different publishers, and only missed a handful of monthly issues. We all owe a great deal of thanks to Kirk Baxter, who guided the Club for eleven years—and, of course, Darren, without whom none of this would be necessary! The name was modified once (it was originally the Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts - the word 'radio' was added to avoid confusion). Membership has varied wildly, corresponding to pirate activity and a certain amount of publicity (at one point we actually had 400 members thanks to a write-up in the *Utne Reader*!)."

And think of this: *the ACE has outlasted the USSR!* That's right, the nation that launched the first man into space is on the ash heap of history, but the ACE is still going strong!

And big thanks this month to Frederick Moe, whose new column, "Random Transmissions," debuts this month! This promises to be a terrific new column for news, views, and info that doesn't fit into other sections—please support Fred and his new column with your input!

HARRY

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

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DIALOGS May 2002

Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130

Email: lreynolds@spamcop.net

ICQ# 60166326/4139354

(Next deadline for submissions: May 22nd, 2002)

LATE LOGS

KMUD

- 03/18/02, 0320-0430, 6948A - mx - instrumental. (ZR-AZ 333)

WHYP

- 03/18/02, 0158, 6925A. (ZR-AZ 222)

UNID

- 03/18/02, 0310-6955U - talk/mx. (ZR-AZ 322)

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Alfa Lima International (Hoogeveen)

- 03/31/02, 2157-2320, 15070A - mx - Small Faces, Golden Earring. Email and phone calls from listeners. (SC-VA 212)
- 04/06/02, 2250-0127, 15070A - mx - various styles, Beatles. Faint. Email from Mount Kisco. (JS-NE)(SC-VA 333)
- 04/13/02, 2154+, 15070A - mx - dance. Weak, noisy. (JS-NE)

Borderhunter Radio (borderhunter@hotmail.com)

- 03/23/02, 2325-2340, 15795A - mx - Fleetwood Mac, Norman Greenbaum. Emails. (SC-VA 343)
- 03/03/02, 0042-0047, 15795A - mx - Billie Piper. "Happy Easter." (SC-VA 323)
- 04/05/02, 2345-0015+, 15795A - mx - rock, pop. Greetings to email correspondents. (CL-MA 242)(SC-VA 333)
- 04/12/02, 2347-0015, 15795A - mx - "Don't want to lose Your Love Tonight" and "Thank God I'm a Country Boy." Mention of L.Cee. (JS-NE)

Radio Bandonica/Enterprise (bandonica@hotmail.com)

- 04/07/02, 0559-0655+, 11470A - mx - various. OM Marcel w/EE ID at 0624. (CL-MA 222)

Scandinavian Weekend Radio (info@swradio.net)

- 04/06/02, 0335-0348, 11720A - mx - "Green, Green Grass of Home." IDs, OM giving info, reverb effects into bluesy harmonic mx. (CL-MA 222)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Buckwheat Radio (buckwheatradio@hotmail.com)

- 04/22/02, 0100-0154*, 6950U - mx - John Mayer. Running 10W. (AF 323)(WS-TN 433)(JS-NE 322)(SC-VA 334)

Captain Morgan (FRN)

- 03/22/02, 0310-0327, 6950A - mx - R&B. (SC-VA 322)
- 03/26/02, 0424-0431, 6950A - mx - ELO, Carly Simon. (Pse QSL SC-VA 423)
- 04/11/02, 0151-0208, 6950A - mx - Steve Martin, KC & The Sunshine Band, Hendrix. (SC-VA 333)

Jolly Roger Radio International (jr_radio@hotmail.com)

- 04/13/02, 2350-2359, 6950U - mx - bagpipes. ID as JRR, mentioned lack of broadcasting due to a death in the family. (SC-VA 222)

KHJ (Unknown)

- 04/04/02, 0105-0240*, 6925A – mx – The Knack, Eagles. Abrupt signoff. (*Pse QSL JS-NE 333*)(*SC-VA 434*)(*ZR-AZ 323*)

KMUD (Lone Pine)

- 04/04/02, 0050-0300+, 6949A – mx – electronica, instrumental. (*ZR-AZ 222*)
- 04/11/02, 0128-0253, 6948A – mx. New Firesign Theater show (*ZR-AZ 322*)
- 04/13/02, 0220-0447, 6948A – mx – space. (*ZR-AZ 322*)
- 04/14/02, 0138-0530, 6928A – mx – instrumental. Also sound clips which gave it a KIPM-like sound. (*ZR-AZ 322*)

KRMI (krmi6955@yahoo.com)

- 03/30/02, 0156-0203*, 6955U – only able to copy ID and email address. (*JS-NE*)

New Wave Radio Experience (Unknown)

- 03/22/02, 0125-0141, 6955U – various mx and nonsense. (*ZR-AZ 333*)

Obscene Numbers Station (None)

- 04/20/02, 0045-0052, 6950U – parody of a numbers station using sexual terms and slang instead of numbers. (*JS-NE*) (*Looks as if someone, somewhere, dug out a tape of this oldie!*)

Oxycontin Radio (None official, Belfast could be good)

- 03/23/02, 0141-0259*, 6950A – mx – Beastie Boys, Natalie Merchant, Green Onions, Glen Miller. Clips of Bozo, finis with a pornographic sound track. (*GM-CT 434*)
- 03/28/02, 0140-0255, 6950A – mx – Natalie Merchant, G.G. Allin, Aerosmith/Run DMC, The Vapors. "Raunchy Sex" skit & classic 50's tunes. (*Pse QSL MG-OH*)
- 03/29/02, 0140-0259*, 6950A – mx pop, ragtime, big band. Prono soundtrack clips. Good signal. (*WH-IL 355*)(*JS-NE 333*)(*SC-VA 544*)
- 03/30/02, 0101-0136*, 6925A – mx – Blondie, Golden Earring, Johnny Rivers. (*GM-CT 333*)(*WS-TN 343*)

Radio Bingo (radiobingo@chek.com)

- 03/26/02, 2355-0038, 6950A – numerous sound clips, Overcomer Ministry, Jimmy Da Weasel, etc. (*ZR-AZ 222*)

Radio Nonsense/Take It Easy Radio (Belfast)

- 04/14/02, 0033-0105+, 6950U – mx – Pink Floyd, Steve Miller, Dire Straits. Joe Momma with H&R Block tips on why they should do your taxes. (*GM-CT 232*)(*Greg reported TIER*) (*AF 141*)(*Al said R Nonsense*)(*ZR-AZ 333*)
- 04/20/02, 0037-0043*, 6951U – tax tips, the Loch Ness Monster, Beavis and Butthead. (*WS-TN333*)(*JS-NE*)

Radio Metallica Worldwide (None)

- 04/14/02, 0153-0214*, 6925A – mx – Johnny Rivers. Anti-Weiner diatribe. (*WS-TN 444*)(*JS-NE 433*)(*ZR-AZ 222*)
- 04/15/02, 0151-0219, 6925A – repeat of an old show with Allan Weiner comments. Off with "Secret Agent Man." (*GM-CT 434*)

Radio Urantia Worldwide (Unknown)

- 04/14/02, 0229-0303+, 6950A – mx. OM annr, southern accent phonetically saying things like "Are we having fun yet, Bob?", "They're coming to take me away" and "Woodbury Parr, we know who you are." (*AF 433*)(*WS-TN 333*)(*Pse QSL JS-NE 433*)(*ZR-AZ 222*)
- 04/15/02, 0244-0303, 6950U – mx – Mojo Nixon. Parody of RMW, phonetic codes, "Are we having fun yet, Bob?" repeated several times, off with a KIPM end sequence. (*GM-CT 332*)
- 03/23/02, 0051-0122, 6925A – mx – Napoleon XIII. Phonetic message. (*SC-VA 333*)

Seattle Free Radio (seattlefreeradio@yahoo.com)

- 03/28/02, 0400-0440+, 6950U – mx – Buffalo Springfield. Old SF show. (*JS-NE*)
- 03/30/02, 0447-0620, 6950A – mx – various. Mr. Clean jingle, Church of the SubGenius programming. (*SC-VA 212*)
- 04/10/02, 0426-0520+, 6935U – radio drama and sound clips. (*ZR-AZ 222*)

Sycko Radio (If anyone ever gets a reply from Sycko, let me know and I'll start listing his email again.)

- 03/20/02, 0205, 6955U – mostly just noises. (*ZR-AZ 322*)
- 03/22/02, 010-0125+1, 6955U – mx – Country/Bluegrass. "Dixie," "Discovery Channel." (*AF 222*)(*JS-NE*)
- 03/23/02, 0108-0118+, 6955U – mx – REM. Sycko taking calls. Ad for US West, Kermit and Fuzzy. (*AF 231*)(*JS-NE434*)

- 03/23/02, 0400-0420+, 6955U – mx – live version of "Boom, Boom out go the Lights." Live and unrehearsed show. (*JS-NE 434*)
- 03/23/02, 0542-0750, 6955U – Sycko with a description of Al Fansome followed by a QSO with unit from previous broadcast. (*SC-VA 333*)
- 03/24/02, 0506-0650, 6955U – regular Sycko mx mix plus Sesame Street. (*SC-VA 343*)
- 03/25/02, 0257-0344, 6955U – mx – circus. Sycko babble. (*SC-VA 323*)(*ZR-AZ 433*)
- 03/26/02, 0237-0330, 6950U – mx – Floyd, Jethro Tull, Lenny Kravitz, Guess Who. (*AF 333*)(*JS-NE 333*)(*SC-VA 433*)
- 03/26/02, 0337-0420, 6955U – mx – Pink Floyd, circus, The Fools. (*SC-VA 433*)
- 03/27/02, 0147, 6955U – mx – "Some Like It Hot," "Heart Of Rock And Roll," "She Blinded Me With Science." (*AF 322*)
- 03/29/02, 0026-0143+, 6955U – mx – heavy metal, Pink Floyd. A completely whacked-out DJ. Free-form show. (*WH-IL 154*)(*JS-NE 434*)(*SC-VA 544*)
- 03/30/02, 0635, 6955U – mx – heavy metal. "We Want Sycko" chant. (*AF 233*)
- 03/31/02, 0047, 6955U – mx – "Heart full of Soul," "Taking care of Business." (*AF 222*)
- 03/31/02, 0100-0150, 6950U – mx – "Heart of Rock and Roll," "The Heat is On," a Tom Waite tune. (*WH-IL 244*) (*AF 222*)
- 04/01/02, 0145-0242*, 6955U – usual format plus a visit from the Psycho Easter Bunny. IDing as "Psycho Easter Bunny." (*JS-NE 333*)
- 04/02/02, 0500-0528, 6955U – Sycko is playing with the mixing board. (*SC-VA 444*)
- 04/09/02, 0125-0204, 6955U – Jimmy The Blade at the mike. Sycko at the turntable. (*SC-VA 333*)
- 04/10/02, 0258-0356, 6950U – trademark Sycko show. (*SC-VA 534*)(*ZR-AZ 333*)
- 04/11/02, 0342-0351, 6955U – Sycko is on and rebroadcasting the just broadcast WHYP show! (*SC-VA 343*)
- 04/15/02, 0331-0420, 6955U – mx – alternative rock, circus. (*SC-VA 433*)

United Patriot Militia Bingo (yahwehradio6925@yahoo.com)

- 03/20/02, 0201-0253, 6950A. (*ZR-AZ 222*)
- 03/28/02, 0014-0137*, 6955A – mx – Thomas Dolby, Billy Joel, Beatles. A prayer for the DXing world. Steve Anderson on the run. (*AF 433*)(*JS-NE333*- John says email address bounced. If it does, use Merlin instead.)(*SC-VA 544*)(*ZR-AZ 333*)
- 03/30/02, 0209-0307*, 6925A – mx – "Dukes of Hazzard" theme tune. "Trigger Happy." "Happiness is a Warm Gun", C&W. Signoff with Hendrix' version of the national anthem. (*AF 422*)(*WH-IL 344*)(*GM-CT 333*)(*SC-VA 434*)
- 04/05/02, 0345-0347, 6955U – weak signal. "Can you hear me?" (*AF 321*)
- 04/18/02, 0150-0230*, 6950A – Steve Anderson update from "America's Most Wanted." Off with the estimable Mr. Hendrix' rendering of the "Star Spangled Banner." (*JS-NE 333*)
- 04/19/02, 0105-0208*, 6950A – mx – "Trigger Happy." "It's been a While," "Happiness is a Warm Gun." Militia Babe praises Yahweh. (*AF 433*)(*JS-NE 322*)(*SC-VA 533*)
- 04/20/02, 0137-0227, 6951A – mx – Eric Clapton. Email address given. Mention of Mr. Anderson. (*WS-TN 232*)(*JS-NE 211*)
- 04/23/02, 0210-0243+, 6925A – mx – "Happiness is a Warm Gun." Repeat show due to bad propagation over the weekend. Government is controlling the weather. (*AF 433*)(*JS-NE*)

Voice of the Angry Bastard (Belfast)

- 04/11/02, 0035-0048, 6950A – mx – big band, blues. (*SC-VA 212*)
- 04/12/02, 0049-0119, 6950A – mx – The Ramones. Pigmeat is on with his Joey Ramone Special. (*SC-VA 323*)
- 04/14/02, 0555-0607*, 6950A – mx – swing, big band. (*JS-NE*)

Voice of the New World Order (vonwoun@yahoo.com)

- 03/29/02, 0312-0345*, 6955U – mx – Mike and the Mechanics. Some sort of news programming. Our host is Bill D. Berger. Conspiracy theory programming. (*AF 142*)(*WH-IL 143*)(*JS-NE 434*)
- 04/05/02, 0325-0347, 6955U – news and views form the NWO perspective with Bill D. Berger. (*JS-NE 333*)(*SC-VA 322*)(*ZR-AZ 333*)
- 04/13/02, 0149-0222*, 6955U – mx – Mike and the Mechanics, Bad Boys, Pink Floyd. Black helicopters. (*AF 141*)(*GM-CT 131*)(*JS-NE 333*)(*SC-VA 232*)
- 04/18/02, 0052-0125, 6950U – mx – Mike and the Mechanics. Bad QRM, OM annr very hard to understand. (*AF 232*)(*SC-VA 333*)
- 04/20/02, 0100-0133, 6950 – repeat of the first show. (*JS-NE 322*)

WBAI (Unknown)

- 03/22/02, 0402-0431*, 6960U – tape delayed broadcast of a talk show. (*JS-NE 433*)

WBNY (Uncertain – maybe FRN? Anyone?)

- 03/30/02, 2334-2339*, 6950A – mx – tacky Easter stuff. Send money and stamps to DC drop but don't expect a QSL. Praise for Ganja, hollow threats against Al Fansome. (*AF 322*)(*SC-VA 444*)
- 03/31/02, 0042-0043*, 6950A – host thanking L. Cee and Chris Smolinsky for reports. Sneaking up on Fansome's trailer home. (*AF 322*)

- 03/31/02, 0149-0211, 69050A – mx – Easter songs. "Bunny Radio" ID and mention of Niel Wolfish. (WH-IL 133)(GM-CT 131)
- 03/31/02, 0600-0625, 6950A – thanks to listeners for help with The Revolution. Storybook Lady with "The Stupid Prince." (SC-VA 434)
- 03/31/02, 2340-0002, 6950A – hard to make out – much static. (WH-IL 122)(GM-CT 232)

WBST (Unknown)

- 03/31/02, 2054-2118, 6950A – mx – The Doors. The Beast is after James Brownyard's mind. (Well the Beast has his work cut out for him on that one, then!) (SC-VA 433)

WHYP (whyp@partlycloudy.com)

- 03/14/02, 0310-0340, 6955A – the Kulpville retrospective show inc. Bozo and Pancho. (GM-OH)
- 03/23/02, 0202-0205+, 6925A – mx – rap. A parody show – "Who wants to be a Pirate Radio Operator?" "Living la Vida Lula," "JTA went down to Georgia." Regis Brownyard hosting. (AF 433)(WH-IL 255)(SC-VA 544)(ZR-AZ 332)
- 03/24/02, 0012-0049*, 6950A – an interview with Jay Smilkstein. Winterfest retrospective. (AF 433)(JS-NE 333)(SC-VA 544)
- 04/10/02, 0104-0258*, 6950A – mx – "Walking in LA." James Brownyard's having strange dreams after listening to WBST – Satan's telling him to play 80's music. (AF 444)(JS-NE 433)(SC-VA 544)(ZR-AZ 333)
- 04/11/02, 0104, 6950A – mx – 80's, XTC. Greetings to rec.radio.shortwave listeners. (AF 433)
- 04/11/02, 0222-0341, 6950A – probable repeat of 0104 show. (JS-NE 433)(SC-VA 534)(ZR-AZ 222)

WMFQ (Providence)

- 03/22/02, 0255-0401, 6950A – mx – Phil Collins, Fleetwood Mac, Maria Muldaur, Beatles. (AF 434)(JS-NE 433)(SC-VA 555)
- 04/03/02, 0218-0253, 6950A – mx – "No Reply at All," "Shining Star." (AF 433)(SC-VA 443)(ZR-AZ 333)

WPN (Huntsville)

- 04/06/02, 0111-0134, 6955 – mx – "I touch Myself." Hosted by Captain Squirtlong. (SC-VA 212)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

UNID

- 03/23/02, 0155-0230, 6950A – mx – Hendrix. (ZR-AZ 333)
- 03/23/02, 0121, 6955U – bad mx and ranting, probably Sycko? (ZR-AZ 222)
- 03/25/02, 0439, 6945U – mx. (ZR-AZ 333)
- 03/26/02, 0429-0431*, 6950A – mx but very weak signal - unable to ID the music. (AF 321)
- 03/27/02, 0202-0245+, 6955U – mx – "The Heat is On," "Pump It Up." (ZR-AZ 433)
- 03/27/02, 0210-0300+, 6950U – mx/talk. (ZR-AZ 333)
- 03/29/02, 0030-0039, 6955U – mx – rock. Over modulated. (WH-IL 153)
- 04/01/02, 0155, 6955U – fuzzy sound. (ZR-AZ 333)
- 04/02/02, 0250, 6955U – mx. (ZR-AZ 332)
- 04/05/02, 0325, 6955U – mx – possibly Soul? Don't think it was Vot New World Order. (AF 331)
- 04/12/02, 0306-0335, 6950A – mx – Billy Joel. (ZR-AZ 221)
- 04/13/02, 2346, 6950U – spacey mx. Something about helicopters? Possibly either Vot New World Order or JRRJ. Bad QRM. (AF 121)
- 04/20/02, 0016, 6950U – mx – Doors. Possibly VotNWO but real hard to make out. (AF 131)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

Steve Cherry, 6683 Beach Road, Warrenton, VA 20187 (SC-VA)

Al Fansome (AF)

Mike Gaukin, 23311 Lorain Road #134, North Olmsted, OH 44070 (MG-OH)

William Hassig, 102 North Russell Street, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056-2443 (WH-IL)

Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)

Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM-CT)

Zeke Russell, P.O. Box 34, Williams, AZ 86046 (ZR-AZ)

John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)

Woody Smith, P.O. Box 52823, Knoxville, TN 37950 (WS-TN)

TEN YEARS AFTER...

Ah, some of the stuff from May '92 brings back memories. Everyone was around 7415 to 7425 and, doubtless, causing terrible disruption to aeronautical communications – leastways that was what the FCC always cited as being the reason for busting a station. Nowadays, thanks to modern technology, the FCC is able to license WBCQ on 7415 and have no worries whatsoever as regards aircraft falling out of the sky because of broadcast interference...

KXKVI was active and, I note, getting signal reports that have only been challenged since by today's KIPM. George Zeller's favorite station – The Voice of the Night – was on the air playing music, taking phone calls and being heard as far away as Germany – Lad didn't follow his usual path of praising George or making other comments this time around. Shakerag Radio (via Radio Bob who hadn't yet turned to the dark side of the Pirate Force) was on the air with their excellent redneck humor pieces (I heard 'em once – always wished I'd sent 'em a report – even better than that Foxworthy guy <grin>!) Last but not least, Voice of the Voyager II was to be heard playing Depeche Mode and other tasty 80's sounds.

Correspondents from that long ago golden era included JTA, Pat Murphy, Ralph Brandi, Joe Filipkowski and Harry Helms. Whole buncha other folks, too, but they seem to have gone where the woodbine twineth... Either that or they got laid off when the FCC office they worked at closed.

RAMBLINGS

Okay, a piddling 9 contributors this month yet these few guys manage to turn in a great number of reports and it looks like March/April was quite a busy time for Ye Pirate Station Operators! Nothing from George Zeller, even – I'm gonna check if Steve Anderson has taken ol' George hostage and is using him for his Love Slave Sex Poodle or something... Come on, folks – send 'em in – without your reports there's no column!

Important: If anyone has definite addresses for any of the stations marked "Unknown" this month, please let me know so that this information can be published here to help everyone out!

We have a new contributor this month as well – Mike Gaukin in Ohio, and Steve Cherry in Warrenton, VA made a nice effort this month, too. (Hmmm, that boy lives in an area that's known for spooky phenomena – like Vint Hill – wonder if he has to wear shiny black shoes to work?)

My sincere thanks to everyone that sent in reports – any errors in transcription may be blamed on John Arthur. He had nothing to do with the transcribing, just that he deserves all the grief I can give him!

Black Helicopters. Sounds like the name of a late 70's punk band. Ah, but yours truly actually has a recording of the transmissions from one of those things. This particular beast was in the habit of making midnight runs on a Friday in south central New Hampshire. Took some doing but eventually the right frequency was found (in the low VHF band.)

Duh! If I'd been thinking I'd have tagged last month's logging of "The Asylum" as probably being KIPM.....

The fab marvy Zeke Russell has, as ever been making great snail mail contributions to the column. (You know, Zeke's style of writing, the places he's lived, and "Zeke" – I can't help but get a mental picture of Walter Huston in "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" whenever I see his letter appear in the mail. I know, the picture's almost certainly wrong, but...) Anyways, Zeke reported a logging last month that I tagged as being RFE, but Zeke says "no way!" He reported hearing something like "Radio Free Newhall" – take a look in last month's dialogs under UNID. Current theory from Zeke is that it might be Newhall near L.A. and that the programming is talks and songs in English but with a South Seas accent. Seems Newhall has a lot of South Seas/Asian folk living there. Weird – on SW? George Z – you listening, son? Anyone else hears this one, let us know.

And, most importantly, why the heck can I never hear KMUD?

PROPAGATION

Well, conditions are starting to tank, once again. Noise levels are creeping up, nighttime propagation windows are growing shorter and the cultural elite are seeking to mess with our precious bodily fluids. Where will it all end? Not in better radio conditions for the next few months, that's for sure. Look for higher natural noise levels

Okay, it was deadline time when I sat down at the computer to prepare the latest propagation graphs..... And I realized that my rebuilding of the three systems in the shack had not taken into consideration the fact that the propagation software I use needs Windows 98 – it won't run under Windows 2000. Duh! I tried to get something together for us quickly, but it turns out that the alternate package I have readily to hand will just produce tables that will confuse everyone. So, sorry, no graphs this month.

In the meantime, if you want to try your hand and cranking out the graphs, try <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/> and download the application you'll find there. It's a nice piece of code and lends itself readily to Pirate propagation use.

VERIED RESPONSE

Chris Lobdell
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NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: May 19th

Well, Spring is here and along with it, the warmer weather. The pirate bands will get noisier with static from local thunderstorm activity. Because of the later sunset times, pirate activity will tend to start later in evening as well.

CUPIDO RADIO-HOLLAND. Partial data station "Cherub" card, full data ARO card in two months for \$2.00. [Myers-FL] Same, along with a nice letter describing station along with photos of equipment. [Lobdell-MA]

KIPM. Full data full color 8.5 x 11 sheet of Skull X-ray with headphones on and 2 Outer Limits trading cards in for 4 weeks to Elkhorn, NE maildrop. [Sedlacek-NE] Full color card in a month for 3, 34 cent stamps. [Lerner-NY] Same in 4 weeks. [Smith-TN] 6955, same card in 3 months, along with a listing of shows plus two CDs of programs "The Warhounds" and "He Who Evolved". [Lobdell-MA]

MYSTERY SCIENCE RADIO. Full data sheet showing broadcast facilities from State Idiot Asylum at Syracuse, NY in 3 weeks for mailed report. [Sedlacek-NE]

PURPLE NUCLEUS OF CREATION. Unique and beautiful foldout purple QSL revealing a wheel in center showing reception report. Received in about 1 month for a mailed report. [Sedlacek-NE] Same. [Zeller-OH]

RADIO BANDONICA-HOLLAND. 11470, full data form letter and three different color ball point pens with station logo on them in 2 weeks for taped report and \$2.00. Maildrop: Box 663, 7900 AR, Hoogeveen, Holland. [Lobdell-MA]

RADIO BORDERHUNTER-BELGIUM-HOLLAND. Full data email QSL received overnight w/jpg showing antenna tower complex. [Sedlacek-NE]

VOICE OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER. Full data sheet with comments about receiving secret plans from broadcast and Wanted Poster for Steve Anderson. In 2.5 months from Bill D. Berger. [Sedlacek-NE]

WAIR/ALL INDIE RADIO. Full data postal card in about 3 weeks for mailed report. [Sedlacek-NE]

WRAY. Full data post card from Radio Free Speech who relayed station. [Sedlacek-NE]

Many thanks to the following: Paul Lerner-NY, Greg Myers-FL, John Sedlacek-NE, Woody Smith-TN, and George Zeller-OH.

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2100 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

ERIC CLAPTON, BOB MARLEY, OR KENTUCKY SOAP OPERA? I SHOT THE SHERIFF STUNS CLANDESTINE RADIO

This month the big story in Clandestine radio shot right onto the airwaves of CNN, Fox, and other mainstays of the national media. In fact, Fox TV was the main player in one of the strangest stories to ever come out of the state of Kentucky.

On Saturday April 13, Fox TV ran an episode of the "America's Most Wanted" TV show featuring Steve Anderson of KSMR as a major story. The Fox cameras toured Anderson's home near Somerset, Kentucky, prominently identifying him as the manager and announcer on Kentucky State Militia Radio, the longest running shortwave clandestine station in history that broadcast from a location in the United States with a target area in the United States. As has been reported repeatedly in this column, Anderson has been on the run since a shooting incident with police in Kentucky after he was pulled over for a minor motor vehicle violation. Pulaski County (Kentucky) Sheriff Sam Catron was a major star in the "America's Most Wanted" segment, which featured footage of a hand tuning a shortwave radio while tapes of KSMR programming ran in the show's audio.

Sheriff Catron did not stay home to watch himself on television. Instead, he attended a political fish fry as part of his campaign for reelection. Astonishingly, a sniper hid in the woods next to the fish fry. As Sheriff Catron left the event after his speech heading back to his car, the sniper shot and killed Catron with a bullet in the back from a high powered rifle. The assassination took place literally minutes after Catron's five minutes of fame on Fox TV via the magic of video tape.

The sniper fled from the scene on a motorcycle, but was quickly apprehended by police when the motorcycle crashed. Speculation immediately focused on Steve Anderson as somebody who might have a connection to this assassination. As noted on "America's Most Wanted," a \$20,000 reward is still offered for information leading to the arrest of Anderson following his October shooting incident that left numerous bullet holes in a Bell County, Kentucky sheriff's deputy car. Anderson fled after that incident, and remains at large at column deadline time for *The ACE*. Since the Catron shooting took place only a few miles west of Anderson's home near Somerset, Kentucky, and since it almost coincided precisely with the Fox TV coverage of Anderson and Catron on "America's Most Wanted," CNN and a wide variety of Kentucky media sources quickly printed speculation that Anderson might have some involvement with this shooting. However, right from the

beginning, sources cited from the Kentucky State Police by WHAS radio, the Louisville *Courier Journal*, and a vast array of other Kentucky media sources threw cold water on the Anderson speculation, dismissing any link between the shooting and the Fox TV show as a coincidence.

This did not stop conspiracy theorists in the DX hobby from following the story closely for several days. The link between Anderson and the Catron assassination was too easy to make. CNN also noted that on the "America's Most Wanted" show, Catron said, "He's (Anderson) crossed the line, he shot at law enforcement this time and I don't feel he'll go down easy,"

However, police quickly arrested a suspect in the Catron assassination after the suspect's motorcycle crashed as he fled the scene. The suspect is Danny S. Shelley of Eubank, Kentucky, aged either 31 or 30 depending on which press source you believe. Kentucky police charged Shelley with capital murder on Sunday, April 14.

Then, already strange things got stranger. It turned out that police traced ownership of the wrecked motorcycle to Jeff Morris, a former deputy Sheriff in Catron's department. Morris is running against Catron in the election for Sheriff. The Associated Press reported April 16 that Jeff Morris and another campaign worker in the Morris campaign for sheriff were charged with complicity to murder. The AP said that Shelley, Morris, and the third man were being held without bond. The AP also quoted prosecutor Eddy Montgomery as saying, "Complicity to commit murder carries the same penalty as the murder itself." The AP thus concluded that all three suspects could face the death penalty if convicted.

Thus, as I write this column, it appears that despite the local geography and the "America's Most Wanted" coincidence, there appears to be no link between the assassination of Sheriff Catron and Steve Anderson of KSMR. But, if the police and prosecutors in Kentucky are correct, a new page in campaign strategy has been turned by this incident. Most people running for office do not assassinate their opponent, although that strategy obviously cuts into the number of votes that the opponent will get. It does not guarantee victory, however, since a candidate who ends up in jail being charged with capital murder faces an obvious downside at the ballot box, especially in an election for Sheriff. But, there is precedent for the fact that a dead man can win an election. Our current Attorney General, John Ashcroft, was looking for a job when President Bush nominated him because Ashcroft had lost a Missouri election last November to an opponent who died before election day.

Please do not write in with any requests for corrections here regarding Ashcroft. It is of course true that Ashcroft did not assassinate his opponent, who died in an accident. I'm merely using his election defeat here as an example of deceased candidates who have won elections. Also, most unlicensed broadcast DXers as well as pirate radio operators are aware that Bob Marley's original lyrics do not exactly fit this situation either. In Marley's "I Shot the Sheriff," the singer says that he did not shoot the deputy. In this case, that apparently was because it was the deputy who arranged for the shooting.

In any event, Anderson remains at large despite the large reward money and his national coverage on Fox TV. In addition, KSMR remains off the air, although its pirate parody *Kentucky State Militia Bingo* remains active.

NO VENEZUELA CLANDESTINE

Weird political news during the last month was not concentrated only in Kentucky. As you certainly must have seen in the news, a military coup briefly overthrew President Chavez in Venezuela. Chavez quickly recovered and was reinstalled in office in less than a week. But, during this crisis, many shortwave listeners tuned their receivers to 60 meters in a vain search for the large number of Venezuelan licensed broadcasters who formerly relayed their programming on shortwave. Ecos del Torbes on 4980 kHz is a pretty pale substitute for the large number of Venezuelan stations that used to occupy channel after channel on 60 meters.

Venezuela does not have a history of clandestine radio stations targeted toward it, although purists will remember that the very active 1960's Basque clandestine *Radio Euzkadi* targeted toward Spain was later found to have been broadcasting from Venezuela using a point to point transmitter otherwise used for maritime communications. During the April political crisis in Venezuela, I saw no reports of clandestine station activity targeted toward Venezuela that were related to the coup.

However, as Don Moore, Henrik Klemetz and others noted on DXplorer, the Venezuelan crisis once again documented that the internet is a very poor and inadequate substitute for shortwave radio as a communications medium. Local press coverage of the coup was hard to follow by people outside Venezuela, given the greatly diminished presence of Venezuelan broadcasters on shortwave, despite very heavy coverage by Ecos del Torbes. As a result some people tried listening to the <http://www.caracol.com.co> Caracol network internet feed from Colombia, but the server for this audio quickly reached its capacity and was utterly unusable. Another internet alternative, Union Radio, also maxed out its server and became completely unusable.

I'm sending yet another public note to Tony Blair and the foolhardy management of numerous shortwave international broadcasters who have concluded that the days of shortwave are over. They ought to open their eyes to situations like we have just seen in Venezuela. By selecting internet services as the only surviving audio option for national radio services, foolhardy politicians and foolish station management are guaranteeing that during the next major crisis it is likely that their country and station will have no voice at all.

CLANDESTINE RADIO WATCH SCHEDULES

In *Clandestine Radio Watch* #103, Martin Schoech reminds us that he maintains a database on the web that tabulates a very large number of clandestine and licensed station schedules and broadcast languages that are tabulated by Eike Birwirth of Russia. You almost certainly will want to check out this extremely useful database at its <http://www.schoechi.de/crw-main.html> URL.

COMMANDER SOLO INFORMATION RADIO ON 8700 KHz

A variety of DX information sources including *Clandestine Radio Watch* #103 have reported that aircraft from the 193rd Special Operations Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard have returned to their base in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. These aircraft were the transmitter platform for the Information Radio anti-Afghanistan broadcasts that many of us have heard on 8700 kHz. But, the broadcasts are still heard on 8700 kHz plus a local medium wave relay on 980 kHz. Radio Netherlands has reported that the current broadcasts are from a land-based transmitter whose location is being withheld for "security reasons." So it still will pay to check out 8700 kHz once in a while.

CUMBRE DX

While we are on the subject of extremely useful DX information resources, the time has arrived for one of our periodic plugs for the *Cumbre DX* newsletter. Both Hans Johnson and our own Ullis Fleming continue to distribute this excellent e-mail resource every week. Best of all, the newsletter remains absolutely free of charge to individuals who contribute material. As usual, the clandestine coverage in *Cumbre* remains very good and extremely timely. However, it has been *Cumbre's* policy from the beginning to ignore North American pirate DX loggings. This is a major void that has been ably filled for a long time by the *Free Radio Weekly* internet newsletter. If you want to check out *Cumbre*, you can send in loggings via their e-mail distribution address at cumbreditor@cumbredx.org or you can also check out their web site at <http://www.cumbredx.org> for additional information. If you need more information on *Free Radio Weekly* you can send an e-mail to any of its editors, including Niel Wolfish at niel@ican.net or Greg Majewski GREG-MAJEWSKI@WORLDNET.ATT.NET or Harold Frodge yukon@tm.net and they will be happy to send you the details. Both *Cumbre DX* and *Free Radio Weekly* are extremely useful supplements to *The ACE*, but people without internet connections can't take advantage of them, since their distribution is exclusively via e-mail.

One of the interesting recent loggings by Hans Johnson that ran in *Cumbre DX* #395 is something you may want to check out for yourself. He had a presumed log on 6830v kHz April 14 of the Voice of Mojahed jumping up and down in frequency in an attempt to avoid a jammer. Even if you can't understand the programming, the cat and mouse game between clandestines like this one and jammers trying to obliterate their signal is always an interesting thing to hear.

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), Mark Burns (Indiana), Bud Stacy (Alabama), Uli Fleming (Maryland), Gerry Dexter (Wisconsin), Hans Johnson (QTH not provided), Ralph Brandi (New Jersey), Don Moore (Iowa), Henrik Klemetz (Sweden), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by May 15 for the June 2002 *Clandestine Profile*.

Micro'casting

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The sole purpose of this column is to educate & enlighten ACE readers about the many facets of Part 15 & low-powered radio; this is YOUR column, so send any info- ANY info at all- it the address(es) above and you'll get credit or blame, whichever you prefer! (The opinions of this slightly cracked nut are not necessarily those of this otherwise fine publication....)

VACATION'S OVER: And was it fine! We tent-camped at St. Stevens Historical Park for a week, site of the original old Mobile back in the late 1700's. U. of S. Alabama has done some digs and are about to do more this summer on the old town. Being on the Tombigbee (Tombeche) River, it was a major site of commerce and trade and is rich in history. I saw some stuff I'd come upon in the trails that I'd come upon hunting & hiking that I wondered about- now I KNOW what some of the formations were, such as depressions (cellars) and odd stone piles (what're left of structures). I wonder if folks who own lands really do know what's there?

APOLOGY (AGAIN): Sorry I haven't been "around"; time constraints, family and work schedules and such has kept me moving at a more hurried pace than ever before. Seems as if folks are right: the older you get, the faster life takes you!

RAMSEY ELECTRONICS: Yep, John Ramsey is still around, what with the government having raided his business & taking electronics a couple-three years ago. He's still offering kits, but the radio offerings are still "yardcasters" and LPFM and LPAM products. Something new that's supposed to be available June 1, 2002 is the PA100 40 watt FM amplifier. It's operable from 88-108 MHz, can be driven with 1 to 5 watts, tunable from 1 to 40 watts, is spectrally clean at or better than FCC, et. al. specs and is microprocessor controlled for best performance- that includes VSWR protection. Assembled & tested from Ramsey: \$599.95 plus S & H.

Also notably available is the PX1 35 watt synthesized FM stereo transmitter. It's on sale now for \$1695.00, down \$100.

They still offer the FM10A and AM25 as well as other AM/FM and Part 15 products; something I missed (or overlooked?) were the FM "bugs". I believe this was the area the government was interested in when they raided John Ramsey. Does anyone know if they apologized to him? Probably not, the jerks they are. Hey, remember the poster with the head-to-toe black-clad Fed pointing an MP5 submachine gun at the onlooker: "We're from the government- we're here to help you!" Yeah, right!

Why Ramsey, when so many people pooh-poo their products? They're a good starting point for "newbies", their products work when assembled and used properly and I have fond memories of the above. Heck, I still even have one of the old FM10 (not "A") transmitters and an AM transmitter (AM1?) one of the ACE readers and micro'casters donated to me...maybe I'll put them on the air this summer? For someone who wants more "oomph" and to flout the so-called "laws", there's NRG Kits, Broadcast Warehouse and others who have 1/2-watt and up kits. They not only offer these, but "proper" LPFM systems for FCC license here in the good ol' U.S.A. And even so, I've seen no coverage of "FM pirate" busts lately, even after I scanned the FCC website this morning. Is there that little activity, or are people being more cautious and careful about broadcasting, or is the FCC not enforcing at the moment? Maybe all three?

After reading a pirate newsgroup this morning, one fellow is considering taking his yardcaster (FM10A) off the air; seems like, even though he only uses it for sending music around the house, it "leaks" broadcasting into the neighborhood. He's heard neighbors talking about the "interesting music" he plays and even though he's never said a word on it, some trespassers have located him. He mentioned that they even peer into his windows at all hours of the day & night & have seen them leave his yard and walk down the street. He's even heard them talking outside his windows about the coaxes, etc. for his satellite and TV systems. He wondered if this was the FCC's M.O. and a replier said that the FCC was a little higher tech than a common Peeping Tom and that he should call 911 and bust these Radio Cops! I agree...

Well, that's enough for now; peering around on the FCC's site for Part 15 have yielded nothing new of interest, so I'd better tend to the garden before it gets too hot. Let me hear from YOU, OK? "Is there anybody out there?" de Bud

Covert Comms

By Tom Sevart

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Sometimes I wish I had time to do nothing but just sit down and read. Unfortunately, my schedule doesn't permit it, since there always seems to be something else that needs to be done. However, I do manage to squeeze in some time here and there. And thankfully, it was not wasted while reading *Body of Secrets* by James Bamford, which I only recently finished.

In case you're not familiar with the book, *Body of Secrets* is the latest exposé of the National Security Agency by Bamford, who in 1983 authored the book *The Puzzle Palace*, which is also about the NSA.

Body of Secrets is an incredibly fascinating read, whether you are interested in espionage operations or not. The well-documented book details various intelligence gathering missions around the world, from the end of WWII to the present. Incidents such as the shootdown of Francis Powers in his U2, the Cuban missile crisis, the Israeli attack on the *USS Liberty*, and the fall of Saigon and evacuation of the US embassy are discussed in detail with information you've never seen before.

Bamford also discusses the "Echelon" program, in which the NSA monitors international telephone conversations which are carried via satellite. Echelon has gotten a lot of attention the past few years, and it has been suspected by many that the NSA has the ability to monitor every telephone conversation, fax, and email that is made every day. In actuality, the NSA doesn't routinely monitor the communications of US citizens, but does monitor foreign communications in order to find terrorists, people aiding countries hostile to the US, and other hot information of interest to the US government. This makes the NSA an extremely powerful agency.

Bamford also goes into detail about the day-to-day operation of "Crypto City," as the NSA headquarters is unofficially called. The annual budget, amount of electricity used per day, amount of classified waste generated daily, and amount of food consumed by Crypto City inhabitants is staggering. It's also interesting to learn that Crypto City has its own police force.

An interesting point brought up in the book details the problems faced by the NSA by rapidly changing communications. No longer is shortwave radio the only means of international communications. Now satellites, email, faxes, and other forms of communications have taken over as the main means of communication. However, in third-world and other countries not as technologically advanced as western countries, shortwave radio still remains a viable and important means of communications. What this means to the NSA is that they have to hold on to the old ways of gathering intelligence, plus they have to keep developing new technology to keep up with the ever-rapid pace of changing technology. Unfortunately, they don't have the budget to do both.

The last chapter in the book gives a detailed look at the various supercomputer systems in use by the NSA over the past 40 years or so. The supercomputers, of course, are used for codebreaking. The chapter also explains how supercomputers have become mainly obsolete because now many inexpensive, slower computers can be networked to do the same job at a fraction of the cost. On the other hand, research into faster computers is still continuing with scientists looking at using biological material for faster electrical connections than can be had with silicon components.

At the end of the book, there is a list of various crypto job titles & descriptions at the NSA. I was pleased to see that my old military job, Morse Collector, was listed.

In all, this is a very good, interesting book and I would highly recommend it to everyone interested in intelligence work.

RANDOM TRANSMISSIONS

by Frederick Moe

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Random Transmissions is a new column that I hope to write for the ACE newsletter on a semi-regular basis. My intention is to highlight various pirate radio stations past and present and to explore the diversity of pirate broadcasts available to shortwave listeners.

Some of the frustration of pirate listening is obvious - I'm never at the right place at the right time with the right propagation to hear Scream of the Mosquito, KMUD, Seattle Free Radio and other stations. Since North American pirate broadcasts are unpredictable, even the most dedicated listener can tune in for months, even years, before dx'ing elusive pirate stations. Being able to read excellent resources like Andrew Yoder's books and Hobby Broadcasting has helped listeners like myself immensely. This column is not intended to duplicate Andrew's or other writers work, but to supplement what is currently available. We can never have too much of a good thing!

Some of the joy of listening to ever elusive pirate signals is the uniqueness of each station and each operator. Commercial radio sounds more or less all the same --- pirate radio couldn't sound more different. Each station has a distinct individuality. Of course, if you're reading this, I'm preaching to the choir. What we need to do is introduce more people to the hobby by opening the world of shortwave and pirate listening to them.

Five Things You Can Do to Introduce People to Pirate and Shortwave Listening

1. Talk about your radio listening hobby to friends, co-workers, etc.—this is often the most simple way to introduce people to the hobby, yet one we often overlook or forget about. Of course, some people are shortwave evangelists (like Allan H. Weiner & the folks at WBCQ). Keep up the great work!
2. Do a presentation for an elementary or middle school class - this is when kids are open to new ideas and exploring their imagination. Communications, social studies, geography classes are good places to start. Teachers are often looking for ways to enhance their lesson plans.
3. Share books and magazines with friends and co-workers, show them Monitoring Times and the ACE newsletter or whatever you may subscribe to. Ask bookshops and magazine stands if they will stock radio related publications.
4. Share shortwave and pirate broadcast tapes, cds or audio files with others & just ask them to listen and give their opinion. Many people have never even heard shortwave broadcasts and may be intrigued by what they hear!
5. Invite people to check out the Free Radio Network website www.frn.net --- and if you have your own website, link to it. Invite people to visit other shortwave or pirate sites, i.e. dxing.com.

These are just a few basic ideas, I'm sure you can think of other creative ways of sharing the listening hobby and many of you already have! Unfortunately, if we don't do more to actively promote pirate and shortwave listening we're just proving the doomsayers right - that shortwave in North America (and worldwide) is a dying medium.

Your help is appreciated. If you have a favorite pirate station that you would like profiled in this column, or have any other comments, please contact me with your thoughts and ideas. I would appreciate hearing from you by postal mail or e-mail. Until next time, keep your radio tuned to the neighborhood of 6925 and beyond!

Join the ACE Pirate Radio Mailing List!

The ACE Pirate Radio Mailing List is a free e-mail list moderated by ACE publisher Harry Helms. Exchange pirate radio DX tips, discuss people and personalities, get advance notice of pirate operations! To join, just send a BLANK e-mail to:

PirateRadio-subscribe@topica.com

Continued from last month. . .

PERSONNEL DIRECTORY

Listed here are the companies concerned with the operation of R. Americas and predecessor R. Swan, along with the officers of these companies and, in some cases, their other business connections.

Gibraltar Steamship Corp. (1960; inactive)
Pres.: Thomas D. Cabot, Weston, Mass.
Director, Ist Natl. Bank, Boston
VP: Sumner Smith, Lincoln, Mass.
Owner of Swan Island(s)
Stockholder: Walter S. C. Rogers, Baltimore, Md.
Commercial Mgr.: Horton H. Heath, New York, N.Y.

Program Dir.: R. J. Wilkinson, Miami, Fla.
Operations Mgr.: Roger C. Butts, Miami, Fla.
Vanguard Service Corp. (1962-Present; inactive)
Pres. & Treas.: Leon D. Black, Miami Shores, Fla.
VP: Robert R. Bellamy, Miami, Fla.
Investment broker

Secy.: Frank J. Kelly, Coral Gables, Fla.
Radio Americas, Inc. (Present)
Pres.: Roosevelt C. Houser, Coral Gables, Fla.
Director, Ist Natl. Bank, Miami, Fla.
VP: W. R. Maddux, Miami, Fla.
Maddux & Co., real estate
Secy.-Treas.: Walter S. C. Rogers, Coral Gables, Fla.
Pres., Florida Bond & Mortgage Co.
Program Dir.: R. J. Wilkinson, Miami, Fla.
Former Vanguard Officers

Pres.: William H. West, Jr., Millwood, Va.
VP: Farmers & Merchants Natl. Bank, Winchester, Va.
James E. Hollingsworth, Palm Beach, Fla.
Director, Ist Natl. Bank, Palm Beach, Fla.
VP & Genl. Mgr.: Mr. Butts, then of Hollywood, Fla.
Former employee, W. R. Maddux
Secy.: Richard S. Greenlee, New York, N.Y.
Attorney

Commercial Manager: Mr. Heath
Program Dir.: Mr. Wilkinson
Office Mgr.: Fredrick Faskerly, Miami, Fla.
George Wass, address unknown

radio network. Wilkinson lives in Miami at 11800 S.W. 83rd Ct. (his phone is unlisted). RA Program Coordinator is Orlando Alvarez, owner of important radio stations CMCH and COBH, popularly known as R. Cadena Habana, prior to Castro's takeover of all stations.

These two men head a staff of more than 30 persons in Miami—artists, newsmen and technicians. They also control the four Cuban newscasters and one American radio operator stationed on Swan Island.

RA programs are both live and on tape, the live broadcasts consisting of newscasts that are transmitted each half-hour by the staff on Swan Island. News material is derived from AP and UPI via short-wave radio.

The taped programs are partly original, consisting of soap operas, dramatic shows, comedy—all done with a not-too-subtle anti-Castro slant. They are recorded at a small studio in Miami Beach or at the Continental Sound Recording Studios, 2020 N.W. 7th St., Miami. Continental is operated by Aldo Vazquez, who supervises all of the recording

work. Continental's second in command is Orlando Alvarez, Wilkinson's assistant at RA. In fact, RA by now may have bought out Continental. The recordings are directed by Angel Fernandez Varela, ex-director of the Havana newspaper Informacion. Many of the commentary programs are narrated by Cuban counter-revolutionary Luis Conte Aguiro.

The remainder of the taped shows are recorded off the air from broadcasts of short-wave station WNYW, operated by R. New York Worldwide. This station, while it was still called WRUL, was identified as another CIA spook. The voices of Havana Rose and Luis Conte Aguiro were picked up for re-broadcast by R. Swan and R. Americas from WRUL's transmitters at Scituate, Mass., now used by WNYW. When these transmitters were destroyed by fire last April (they were back on the air in eight days with rented equipment) we couldn't help wondering about the cause. But a station spokesman would say only that the cause of the fire was still under investigation.

The completed tapes are flown to Swan twice weekly in RA's own single-engine Piper Comanche, stopping for fuel in Cozumel, Mexico. The plane also flies the personnel back and forth to the island for rotation every few months.

On Swan, the transmitter (now 50 kw, replacing the original low-power portable unit) and other facilities are located in two trailers which recently were mounted on permanent cement piles. Electronic equipment used by the station is described as the best and is maintained meticulously.

The American radio operators on Swan don't have much spare time but are free to take a busman's holiday by using the RA ham station, FCC-licensed under the call-sign KS4CC. Most operators are hams and make good use of the station. Recent operators have included W4LVF, WØYKD, W6PEU and KH6BCB.

One interesting aspect of RA is that the operation costs some \$30,000 per month to keep going. Bob Wilkinson is said to be pulling down a salary of about \$14,000 per year and his assistant, Orlando Alvarez, supposedly earns \$10,000. The people stationed on Swan also make good salaries.

Cost, of course, isn't something to haggle about when you've got an effective propaganda machine.
[Continued on page 116]

To be concluded next month. . .

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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